

Re-apportionment Bills, Chances For Referendum Vote Discussed

By CHARLES E. CHAPEL
Assemblyman, 46th District
When the Legislature is not in session, my new mailing address is Post Office Box 327, Redondo Beach. Mail sent to my former address in Inglewood will be received, but I can give you faster service if you write to my new Redondo Beach address.

There were three re-apportionment bills at the last session. One pertained to senatorial districts and made no changes because none could be made under the State Constitution. One pertained to Congressional district and one defined the new Assembly Districts. The latter bills came up originally in the Assembly and I voted "NO" on them; they went to the Senate, where they were amended slightly, and returned to the Assembly where I again voted "NO".

There are at present 33 Republican members of the Assembly. On the final roll calls, seventeen Republicans voted "YES" with the Democratic Party and sixteen of us voted "NO." There will be no referendum to overthrow the re-apportionment laws because the majority of the Republican leaders have decided that a referendum would be extremely expensive and the outcome would be uncertain.

SENATE BILL No. 57, by State Senator Hugo Fisher, Democrat, of San Diego, passed both houses of the Legislature, was signed by the Governor and is now known as Chapter 848. It reduces the number of teaching credentials to five, requires that emphasis be placed on subject matter instead of teaching methods in the training of teachers, and makes other changes in the Education Code. I do not have copies for distribution. Please write to the Legislative Bill Room, State Capitol, Sacramento 14, Calif., and ask for Senate Bill No. 57 by Fisher, Chapter 848. You can get free copies.

The so-called Old-Age Pension bills are officially called "Aged Aid" bills. There are at least twenty and possibly thirty that passed the Legislature and went to the Governor. At this writing, few of them have been signed by the Governor, but July 21 was the deadline.

Sometime after the deadline I shall know which bills he signed and which were given the so-called "pocket veto." Your newspaper will carry stories on these bills and I shall comment on them briefly in future issues of my "Sacramento Report."

CURIOSLY enough, there were two bills which increase the aid to the aged from \$95 per month to \$100 per month, one by a State Senator and one by an Assemblyman. They differ in details, but the important feature in each of the two bills is the \$5 increase.

In the past, a widower was treated more generously than a widow in paying the State inheritance tax. During the recent session, we passed a will which treats the surviving spouse, whether it be a man or a woman, equally. The bill went to the desk of the Governor and at this writing we do not know whether he will sign it or not, but in a future issue of this column details of the bill and the action by the Governor will be reported.

DURING THE recent session we passed and the Governor signed a bill by the Honorable Clayton Dills, Democrat of Gardena, which increased penalties for narcotic violations. Of course, I voted for and supported it vigorously. I did the same when a similar bill by Assemblyman Dills came before us two years ago, and at that time I was the principal floor leader for the Dills Bill. I am glad that the bill has become a law but I am sorry

to report that my bill to make it easier to get evidence in narcotics cases was killed.

Similar bills by other legislators were also killed. Obviously, unless the law-enforcement officers can get evidence of violations, they can not get convictions, hence a stiff penalty law without stronger laws regarding the admission of evidence has a limited application. Your letters sent to Post Office Box 327, Redondo Beach, will be read carefully and answered as promptly as possible.

Service Record Correction Date Set October 26

Time is running out for ex-service men and women who want to correct inaccuracies or injustices in their military or naval records that make them ineligible for veterans benefits.

Veterans Service Officer Sara R. Bidges reminds such former service personnel that generally, the deadline for applications to correct alleged error or injustice in armed forces records is before October 26, 1961 or within three years after discovery of such error or injustice; whichever is later.

WRITTEN application by the veteran, his survivors, or legal representative should be made to the service concerned on Department of Defense Form 149 (DD 149), entitled "Application for Correction of Military or Naval Record."

Applications for review of discharge (to modify any dismissal not the result of a general court-martial) must be made within 15 years after discharge, on Form DD 293.

The Veterans Service Office, located at 1822 Gramercy Ave., can be of assistance to these persons in making application, Mrs. Bridges said.

THE SECRETARIES of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Treasury are authorized by Public Law 601 (79th Congress) to correct any military or naval record where in their judgment such action is necessary to correct an error or remove an injustice. The secretaries act through boards of civilian officers or employees of their respective departments.

The October 26, 1961 expiration date on correction applications was imposed by Public Law 220 (82nd Congress), which amended Public Law 601.

THE VETERAN must submit his original discharge or copy thereof with the application, and also his sworn statement of the alleged error or injustice and, if applicable, the reason he thinks the sentence was too severe for the offense committed.

Statements from former comrades in the service who know of the incident in question should also be submitted in support of the veteran's application in such cases.

Polio Shots Available Now

Polio vaccine shots at \$1 each will be given in Torrance Wednesday, Aug. 2, from 2-3 p.m., at the Bain Medical Clinic, 2093 Torrance Blvd.

Sponsoring the community service event are members of the medical staff in cooperation with the March of Dimes. Dr. Martin F. Bain, chairman of the project, urged parents to protect children and themselves against paralytic polio before the high incidence season in late summer and early fall.

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